

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 ACDA-19 IO-14 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /137 W

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R 251435Z SEP 74

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4046

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USNATO 6053

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 1693

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, GE, EB, UR

SUBJ: GDR 25TH ANNIVERSARY AND CONTINGENCY PLANNING

REF: A. BONN 14953 B. BERLIN 1147

1. REGARDING FRENCH REP'S READING OF HONECKER JULY 5 SPEECH (PARA 5 REF A), WE CAN FIND NO REFERENCE IN SPEECH TO PUBLICATION OF USSR-GDR ARRANGEMENTS ON OCCASION OF 24TH ANNIVERSARY. FRENCH MAY HAVE EXTRAPOLATED FROM HONECKER'S MENTION OF UNSPECIFIED AGREEMENTS APPARENTLY REACHED DURING TALKS WITH BREZHNEV IN MOSCOW ON JUNE 17-18. JOINT COMMUNIQUE RESULTING FROM THOSE TALKS STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF 1964 USSR-GDR TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND MUTUAL COOPERATION AND REPORTED THAT HONECKER AND BREZHNEV HAD DISCUSSED FURTHER DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT OF TREATY RELATIONS. HOWEVER, NEITHER HONECKER JULY 5 SPEECH NOR JUNE 19 COMMUNIQUE REFER TO SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS OR TO ANY ANNOUNCEMENT PLANNED FOR 24TH ANNIVERSARY.

2. COMMENT: THOUGH NO HARD EVIDENCE EXISTS TO SUPPORT REMORS
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THAT SOVIETS AND EAST GERMANS PLAN MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENT IN

CONJUNCTION WITH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS, SOME SYMBOLIC ACT AFFECTING USSR-GDR RELATIONS COULD BE OCCASIONED BY BREZHNEV ANNIVERSARY VISIT. RENEWAL OF 1964 TREATY STRIKES US AS POSSIBILITY IN LIGHT OF EMPHASIS IN JUNE 19 COMMUNIQUE ON TREATY RELATIONS AND PROBABLY DESIRE ON PART OF NEW LEADERSHIP TO UPDATE DOCUMENT ORIGINALLY SIGNED BY ULBRICHT AND KHRUSHCHEV. SUCH TREATY ALTERATIONS COULD BE EXPECTED TO AFFECT THOSE SECTIONS OF ARTICLE 2 DEALING WITH SETTLEMENT OF "VESTIGES" OF WORLD WAR II AND CALLING FOR GERMAN PEACE TREATY AND NORMALIZATION OF SITUATION IN WEST BERLIN; BOTH PARTIES MAY FEEL THIS ARTICLE HAS BEEN RENDERED OBSOLETE BY FRG-GDR GENERAL RELATIONS TREATY, QA AND FRG'S EASTERN TREATIES. IN THIS REGARD, FRG DEPUTY PERM REP IN EAST BERLIN BRAEUTIGAM RECENTLY MENTIONED TO MISSION OFFICER POSSIBILITY OF JOINT SOVIET-EAST GERMAN DECLARATION TO EFFECT THAT THESE AGREEMENTS MAKE GERMAN PEACE TREATY UNNECESSARY. BRAEUTIGAM COMMENTED THAT ALTHOUGH PRACTICAL EFFECTS OF SUCH DECLARATION WOULD BE MINIMAL, LEGAL IMPLICATIONS FOR FRG WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE.KLEIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, BERLIN ACCESS CONTINGENCY PLANNING, ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BERLIN01693
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740270-0408
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740917/aaaaanqe.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. BONN 14953 B. BERLIN 1147
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <10-Oct-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GDR 25TH ANNIVERSARY AND CONTINGENCY PLANNING
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, GC, UR
To: BONN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005